

CLAIMS

We claim:

1 1. Method for creating and designing collaboration space
2 forms, comprising:

3 organizing said collaboration space according to an
4 object model selectively including place, room, folder,
5 page, member, form, field, placetype, roomtype, skin,
6 and placebot objects;

7 displaying an interface to said place at a client
8 browser;

9 operating said client browser for creating said form as
10 an object of said place; and

11 operating said client browser for selecting and
12 creating said fields for said form.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step
2 responsive to a user request to create said field,
3 displaying at said browser a task page together with an edit
4 page and fields for all of the material needed to create
5 said field.

1 3. A method for creating forms in a place in collaboration
2 space, comprising the steps of:

3 creating at a browser a script file containing field
4 properties and methods which display and operating on
5 said field; and

6 generating forms with reference to said field
7 properties and methods while generating hypertext links
8 on the fly.

1 4. The method of claim 3, said forms being task forms.

1 5. The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

2 responsive to a request to create a new page, obtaining
3 and displaying to said user a list of possible forms;

4 responsive to a user request to create a new form,
5 obtaining and displaying to said user fields related to
6 said form and an add field selector;

7 responsive to user selection of said add field
8 selector, displaying to said user a list of field types
9 that can be created;

10 responsive to user selection and configuration of each
11 fields corresponding to said field types, saving said
12 new form; and

13 thereafter, responsive to a request to create a new
14 page, displaying said new form in said list of possible
15 form.

1 6. The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

2 providing a task option for defining a task in
3 collaboration space when adding a new field to a form.

1 7. The method of claim 6, said task option providing for
2 specification of task criteria including start date, whether
3 said task will have a priority or category, and a default
4 value for priority.

1 8. The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of
2 storing at a server client code for creation of fields, and
3 responsive to user selection of field creation sending said
4 client code as a page containing script code for generating
5 html for execution at said client.

1 9. The method of claim 7, said task criteria specifying
2 that a task page be viewed as a timeline, with options for
3 refining said timeline display for a variety of time scales.

1 10. The method of claim 9, said task criteria specifying
2 that a task page be viewed in list mode.

1 11. A method for defining forms to create pages within
2 collaboration space, comprising the steps of:

3 executing one of three options to create a form, said
4 options being:

5 creating a form using field objects from said
6 collaboration space;

7 importing a form created in legacy text editor;
8 and

9 importing a form created in an html editor;

10 providing in each said option methods for uploading a
11 document and sending a notification, adding a method to
12 a calendar, and adding a task to a place in said space.

1 12. The method of claim 11, said legacy text editor being
2 Microsoft Word.

1 13. A method for adapting collaboration space to reflect
2 workflow, comprising the step of:

3 responsive to request by a client browser user at an
4 interface to said collaboration space to use a form to

5 create a page, providing an options page including work
6 flow options selectable by said user for specifying
7 workflow options for pages created using said form,
8 said options including:

9 no special workflow, specifying that pages may be
10 published by said user;

11 simple submit, specifying that pages may be
12 created and submitted by said user;

13 editor, specifying that pages created by said user
14 will only be published after being approved an
15 editor;

16 approval cycle, specifying that each page is to
17 routed through a series of members of a place in a
18 specific order;

19 multiple editors, specifying that pages created by
20 an author can, once published, be further edited
21 by any of the authors in a room in said space.

1 14. A method for creating pages in collaboration space,
2 comprising the steps of:

3 at a client browser providing a user interface to said
4 collaboration space;

5 responsive to a user request to create a new form,
6 displaying an add fields panel including a task field;

7 responsive to user selection of said task field,
8 providing input fields for said user to enter task
9 name, start date, priority;

10 thereafter, allowing users to create pages based on
11 said form by selecting said form from a list of
12 available forms.

1 15. A system for creating and designing collaboration space
2 forms, comprising:

3 said collaboration space being structured according to
4 an object model selectively including place, room,
5 folder, page, member, form, field, placetype, roomtype,
6 skin, and placebot objects;

7 a client browser for displaying an interface to said
8 place;

9 a create form panel for creating from client browser
10 said form as an object of said place by selecting and
11 creating said fields for said form.

1 16. A system for creating forms in a place in collaboration
2 space, comprising:

3 a browser at a client for creating a script file
4 containing field properties and methods which display
5 and operate on said field; and

6 means for generating forms with reference to said field
7 properties and methods while generating hypertext links
8 on the fly.

1 17. A system for defining forms to create pages within
2 collaboration space, comprising:

3 means for executing one of three options to create a
4 form, said options being:

5 creating a form using field objects from said
6 collaboration space;

7 importing a form created in legacy text editor;
8 and

9 importing a form created in an html editor;

10 means for providing in each said option methods for
11 uploading a document and sending a notification, adding
12 a method to a calendar, and adding a task to a place in
13 said space.

1 18. A system for creating pages in collaboration space,
2 comprising:

3 a client browser for providing a user interface to said
4 collaboration space;

5 an add field panel responsive to a user request to
6 create a new form for displaying an add fields panel
7 including a task field;

8 input fields responsive to user selection of said task
9 field for providing receiving task criteria from said
10 user;

11 said add field panel thereafter for allowing other
12 users to create pages based on said form by selecting
13 said form from a list of available forms.

1 19. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for creating and designing
4 collaboration space forms, said method steps comprising:

5 organizing said collaboration space according to an
6 object model selectively including place, room, folder,
7 page, member, form, field, placetype, roomtype, skin,
8 and placebot objects;

9 displaying an interface to said place at a client
10 browser;

11 operating said client browser for creating said form as
12 an object of said place; and

13 operating said client browser for selecting and
14 creating said fields for said form.

1 20. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for creating forms in a
4 place in collaboration space, said method steps comprising:

5 creating at a browser a script file containing field
6 properties and methods which display and operating on
7 said field; and

8 generating forms with reference to said field
9 properties and methods while generating hypertext links
10 on the fly.

1 21. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for defining forms to create
4 pages within collaboration space, said method steps
5 comprising:

6 executing one of three options to create a form, said
7 options being:

8 creating a form using field objects from said
9 collaboration space;

10 importing a form created in legacy text editor;
11 and

12 importing a form created in an html editor;

13 providing in each said option methods for uploading a
14 document and sending a notification, adding a method to
15 a calendar, and adding a task to a place in said space.

1 22. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for adapting collaboration
4 space to reflect workflow, said method steps comprising:

5 responsive to request by a client browser user at an
6 interface to said collaboration space to use a form to
7 create a page, providing an options page including work
8 flow options selectable by said user for specifying

9 workflow options for pages created using said form,
10 said options including:

11 no special workflow, specifying that pages may be
12 published by said user;

13 simple submit, specifying that pages may be
14 created and submitted by said user;

15 editor, specifying that pages created by said user
16 will only be published after being approved an
17 editor;

18 approval cycle, specifying that each page is to
19 routed through a series of members of a place in a
20 specific order;

21 multiple editors, specifying that pages created by
22 an author can, once published, be further edited
23 by any of the authors in a room in said space.

1 23. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a

3 machine to perform method steps for creating pages in
4 collaboration space, said method steps comprising:

5 at a client browser providing a user interface to said
6 collaboration space;

7 responsive to a user request to create a new form,
8 displaying an add fields panel including a task field;

9 responsive to user selection of said task field,
10 providing input fields for said user to enter task
11 name, start date, priority;

12 thereafter, allowing other users to create pages based
13 on said form by selecting said form from a list of
14 available forms.

1 24. A computer program product or computer program element
2 for creating pages in collaboration space according to steps
3 comprising:

4 at a client browser providing a user interface to said
5 collaboration space;

6 responsive to a user request to create a new form,
7 displaying an add fields panel including a task field;

8 responsive to user selection of said task field,
9 providing input fields for said user to enter task
10 name, start date, priority;

11 thereafter, allowing users to create pages based on
12 said form by selecting said form from a list of
13 available forms.

1 25. A computer program product for creating forms in a
2 place in collaboration space according to method steps
3 comprising:

4 creating at a browser a script file containing field
5 properties and methods which display and operating on
6 said field; and

7 generating forms with reference to said field
8 properties and methods while generating hypertext links
9 on the fly.